



**ASSOCIATION OF RHODE ISLAND
HEALTH SCIENCES
LIBRARIES**

February 6, 2003

Ms. Anne Parent
Chief of Library Services
Office of Library and Information Services
One Capitol Hill
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

Dear Anne,

The Association of Rhode Island Health Sciences Libraries (ARIHSL) would like to voice our appreciation for the support provided to us by the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS).

While librarians are usually familiar with the services and resources of the libraries of their particular consortia or association (such as ARIHSL), they are not always aware of what is available to our clients in other libraries or information not directly related to health. A need by a client in a hospital library may actually be better served by another type of library. The services and information provided by OLIS enable the libraries throughout the state to work together more effectively and this cooperation results in a better understanding of the resources throughout the state. This knowledge assists the librarian to direct the client to the most appropriate source, whether it is the local public library, an academic library, or a more specialized library such as the hospital library.

Our clients also benefit from our access to the LORI interlibrary loan and delivery service that allows material to move around the state. A hospital library can easily request, on behalf of a client, material that is available in an academic library and have it delivered to the hospital library.

OLIS's provision of access via their website to databases enables us to do wider searches when tracking information for a client. The website also provides, in one central source, links to professional organizations so that librarians in any area can stay abreast of issues that may impact their library or their clients. These programs include the recent teleconference "Safeguarding our Patrons Privacy," as well as various continuing education programs which enable us to manage our libraries more efficiently.

Thanks to OLIS, we in ARIHSL are better able to provide those services which the citizens of Rhode Island need to stay informed. We look forward to a continued partnership with you.

Sincerely,

Patricia M. Padula, MLIS, President
ARIHSL